REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application. Claims 1-87 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 35, 49-53, 69, 75, and 82 have been cancelled. Claims 3, 4, 5, 8, 10-16, 20, 21, 24, 27, 28, 32, 33, 36, 37, 40, 42, 44, 46, 54, 55, 58, 60-62, 64, 66, 70, 73, 76, 77, 80, 83, 86 have been amended without adding any new matter.

Applicant thanks the examiner for indicating that claims 6, 7, 38, 39, 56, 57, 71, 72, 78, 79, 84, 85 have been allowed. Accordingly, applicants have amended the claims noted above to either depend from the allowed claims or substantially incorporate the limitations of the allowed claims. As such, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3-34, 36-48, 54-68, 70-74, 76-81, and 83-87 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 4 14 01

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